



Department of Human Development and Family Studies
Degree Program Requirements for Child Life

Degree Program Requirements include General Education courses; HES College requirements; and Professional Program courses. Students must have a 2.50 MU Cum GPA on or before 60 hours are completed to be admitted to the HDFS Degree Program. Please note that acceptance into this option is on a competitive, space available basis.

GENERAL EDUCATION

*English: 3 hours

- ENGLSH 1000: Exposition and Argumentation
Two Writing Intensive courses: One must be in the major. Prerequisite: ENGLSH 1000
HDFS 2400 Principles of Human Development (4)
HDFS 3420 Early and Middle Childhood (3)

*Mathematics: 3 hours

- MATH 1120: College Algebra
Math Reasoning Proficiency course. Prerequisite: MATH 1120 with a grade in the C range.

American History or Government: 3 hours

- HIST 1100, 1200, 1400, 2210, 2440, 4000, 4220, 4230, or POL SC 1100, 1700, 2100

Distribution of Content: 27 hours

- Courses approved for the Distribution of Content may be found at: http://generaleducation.missouri.edu/requirements/
- Choose at least one course numbered 2000 or higher in two different areas of the distribution.

Biological, Mathematical and Physical Sciences: 9 hours

At least one Biological or Physical Science and its related laboratory. Two different areas of science must be completed. NUTR S 1034 or 1340 may count as Biological Science, but may not 'double count' as an HES Foundation.

(Recommend ESC PS 4170 and Anatomy 2201 and 2203)

- Four empty checkboxes with lines for course selection.

Social and Behavioral Sciences: 9 hours

At least two different departments must be represented. American History or Government course may 'double count.' (Recommend ANTHRO 1000, PSYCH 1000 and SOCIOL 1000.)

- Three empty checkboxes with lines for course selection.

Humanities and Fine Arts: 9 hours

At least one course from two different departments must be represented. COMMUN 1200 may 'double count.' (Foreign language is an exception. A minimum of 12-13 hours of the same foreign language must be taken to fulfill the Humanities requirement.)

(Recommend PHIL 1100, PHIL 1150 or PHIL 4510.)

- Three empty checkboxes with lines for course selection.

*Capstone Experience

Completed during last two semesters of coursework.

- HDFS 4993 Internship in HDFS (15)

HES COLLEGE

Foundation Courses: 6-7 hours

- GN HES 1100 Intro to Human Environmental Sciences (1) (Required for freshmen; recommended for transfer students.)
FINPLN 2183 Personal and Family Finance (3) or
NUTR S 1034 Nutrition, Concepts and Controversies (3)

Communication: 3 hours

COMMUN 1200 may 'double-count' as Humanities, or COMMUN 3571 may 'double-count' as an upper-level Behavioral Science.

- Choose from COMMUN 1200, 3571, 3575

* Courses in these categories must be completed with a grade of C- or better.



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HDFS 1600 must be taken before HDFS 2300 or any 3000-level HDFS course. **Sociology 1000, Psychology 1000, and Anthropology 1000 are required for the degree and should be taken to meet the social and behavioral sciences requirement in General Education.** Admission to the professional practice phase of the child life curriculum (beginning with HDFS 4130 during the junior year) is based upon a *competitive application and interview process*. Students must have attained a 3.0 cumulative GPA, completed HDFS 3500 and be enrolled in (or have also completed) HDFS 3700 at the time of *application*.

REQUIRED COURSES: (69 hours)

- ANTHRO 1000 General Anthropology (3)
- PHIL 4510 Medical Ethics (**credit hours calculated under Humanities- General Education**)
- PSYCH 1000 Introduction to Psychology (**credit hours calculated under Social/Behavioral Science- General Education**)
- SOCIOL 1000 (or RU SOC 1000) Introduction to Sociology (**credit hours calculated under Social/Behavioral Science- General Education**)
- STAT 1200 Introductory Statistical Reasoning **or** 1300 Elementary Statistics **or** 1400 Statistical Analysis **or** ESC PS 4170 Introduction to Educational Statistics (**credit hours calculated under Mathematical Science-General Education**)
- ¹HDFS 1600 Foundations of Family Studies (3)
- HDFS 2200 Research Methods in Human Development & Family Studies (3)
- ¹HDFS 2300 Multicultural Study of Children and Families (3)
- ¹HDFS 2400 Principles of Human Development (4) (WI)
- ¹HDFS 3420 Early and Middle Childhood (3) (WI)
- HDFS 3430 Adolescence and Young Adulthood (3)
- HDFS 3500 Infant-Toddler Development and Programs (4)
- HDFS 3600 Working with Parents (3)
- HDFS 3700 Child Development Laboratory (6)
- HDFS 4085 Problems in Human Development and Family Studies – Child Life Volunteer Experience (1)
- HDFS 4100 Children in Healthcare Settings (3)
- HDFS 4110 Child Life Theory and Practice (3)
- HDFS 4130 Child Life Practicum (3)
- HDFS 4400 Childhood Death and Bereavement (3)
- HDFS 4570 Dev & Admin of Child Services Programs (3)
- HDFS 4700 Children and Families in Poverty (3) **or** HDFS 4720 Child and Family Advocacy (3)
- HDFS 4993 Internship in Human Development and Family Studies - Clinical Practice Internship (480 clock hours, min.) (15)
- HTH PR 2190 Medical Terminology (online course) (3)

Supporting Coursework (6 hours)

Choose 2 courses from among the following:

- HDFS 2450 Human Sexuality Across the Lifespan (3)
- HDFS 4300 Black Families (3)
- HDFS 4610 Stress in Families (3)
- HDFS 4620 Family Interaction (3)
- C&I 4510 Assessment in Early Childhood Education (3)
- NUTR S 2460 Eating Disorders (2)
- PSYCH 3830 Health Psychology (3)
- PSYCH 4540 Emotional Disorders in Childhood and Adolescence (3)
- ESC PS 4150 Interviewing and Counseling (3)
- SPEC ED 4300 Introduction to Special Education (3)
- SOC WK 4390 Helping Strategies with Children and Adolescents (3)

Other supporting coursework must be approved by the advisor prior to enrollment.

Minimum of 120 credit hours must be completed

¹you must earn a 2.00 or better in the course



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Recommended Course Sequence

Fall I

HES 1100 Intro to Human Envr Sciences	1
ENG 1000 Exposition and Argumentation	3
HDFS 1600 Foundations of Family Studies	3
PSYCH 1000 General Psychology	3
ANTHRO 1000 General Anthropology	3
Total	13

Spring I

SOC 1000 Introduction to Sociology	3
HDFS 2300 Multicultural Study Children/Family	3
HDFS 2400 Principles of Human Development	4
MATH 1120 College Algebra	3
BIO SC 1010 Gen Principles & Concepts of Bio	3
Total	16

Fall II

HDFS 3420 Early and Middle Childhood	3
PTH AS 2201 Human Anatomy Lecture	3
History or Political Science	3
FINPLN 2183 Personal and Family Finance	3
COMM 1200 Intro to Speech Communication	3
HDFS 4085 Problems-Child Life Volunteer	1
Total	16

Spring II

HDFS 2200 Research Methods in HDFS	3
HDFS 3500 Infant/Toddler Dev Programs	4
HDFS 3430 Adolescence & Young Adulthood	3
PTH AS 2203 Human Anatomy Lab	2
HTH PR 2190 Medical Terminology	3
Total	15

Fall III

HDFS 3700 Child Development Laboratory	6
HDFS 4100 Children in Health Care Settings	3
NUTR S 1034 Nutrition, Current Concepts	3
Statistics	3
Total	15

Spring III

HDFS 3600 Working with Parents	3
HDFS 4110 Child Life Theory & Practice	3
HDFS 4400 Childhood Death & Bereavement	3
HDFS 4700 Children & Families in Poverty	
or 4720 Child & Family Advocacy	3
Supporting Course	3
Total	15

Fall IV

HDFS 4130 Child Life Practicum	3
HDFS 4570 Dev & Admin of Child Services Prog.	3
PHIL 4510 Medical Ethics	3
Humanities Course	3
Supporting Course	3
Total	15

Spring IV

HDFS 4993 Internship in HDFS	15
Total	15



Human Development & Family Studies

Examples of Careers Pursued by Graduates of the Program

HDFS opens the door to exciting and varied opportunities with families, children, adolescents, and adults, across the nation. The following lists gives examples of the types of careers for which HDFS majors are prepared.

Examples of graduates' positions:

- ◆ Child Life Specialist at children's hospitals in Houston, Chicago Columbia and Kansas City
- ◆ Director of Outpatient Services at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE
- ◆ Director of Women's Shelter, Little York, NY
- ◆ Area Human Development Specialists with University of Missouri Extension in various cities
- ◆ Parent Educator for a Child Oncology Unit at the University of Missouri Medical Center, Columbia, MO
- ◆ Director of Parent Link, resource and referral organization
- ◆ Parent Educator for the National Center of Parents as Teachers Program, St. Louis, MO
- ◆ Employees of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, Houston, TX and Granite City, IL
- ◆ Counselor for Families in Crisis at Community Treatment Center, Farmington, MO
- ◆ Assistant Instructor for the Child Development Laboratory, University of Missouri-Columbia
- ◆ Director of Child Care Center, Ashland, MO
- ◆ Director of Aspen Children's Center, private child care, Independence, MO
- ◆ Supervisor, Community Education, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Jefferson City, MO
- ◆ School-Age Child Care Coordinator, Missouri Voluntary Accreditation, Columbia, MO
- ◆ Youth Program Planner and Evaluator, U.S. Army

Types of Positions Available:

- ◆ Family Divorce Mediator
- ◆ Pre-school, Head Start, or child care program teacher or director
- ◆ School or Head Start program parent coordinator
- ◆ Federal, State, or community agency case worker (e.g., Division of Family Services)
- ◆ Adolescent drop-in center director
- ◆ Family and marriage enrichment program career
- ◆ Foster care or adoption agency counselor or director
- ◆ Family planning counselor
- ◆ Child abuse and neglect counselor
- ◆ Spouse abuse counselor or program director
- ◆ Drug and alcohol abuse counselor or program director
- ◆ Child and family advocate
- ◆ Youth organization or youth leadership director
- ◆ Educational church program director
- ◆ Elderly day care program director
- ◆ Nursing home program director
- ◆ Hospital play group director or teacher
- ◆ Marriage and Family Therapist
- ◆ Genetic Counselor